

PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver
Proclamation CP15-0051

Supporting the designation of Red Rocks Park as a National Historic Landmark

WHEREAS, the National Park Service Advisory Board will consider whether to recommend Red Rocks Park for designation as a National Historic Landmark on February 11 and 12, 2015 and, if approved, the Park could be formally designated by the Secretary of the Interior, joining other venerable sites like Mesa Verde, Bent's Old Fort, the Air Force Academy, and Denver's Civic Center Park as nationally recognized historical and cultural treasures; and

WHEREAS, the 649-acre Red Rocks Park is the crown jewel of the Denver Mountain Parks System - renowned worldwide as an exceptional music venue, ranked by musicians as a top amphitheatre in the world for its striking setting, design, and natural acoustics, all of which connect the music, performer, and audience in a way unparalleled by other venues; and

WHEREAS, widely seen as America's premier outdoor concert site, it has hosted musicians ranging from Stravinsky and Ellington to the Beatles and U2; and

WHEREAS, Red Rocks' history as a visitor destination began in 1878 with the acquisition of the park by the City of Denver in 1928, but most significant is the period of extraordinary collaboration between the City, the National Parks Service, and the Civilian Conservation Corp (CCC) during the Great Depression when the Amphitheatre, designed by Denver architect Burnham Hoyt, was built by young CCC workers housed in the adjoining Mount Morrison Camp; and

WHEREAS, Red Rocks was not only one of the most ambitious projects undertaken by the CCC in terms of size and scale, it also represented a rustic and environmentally sensitive design that was well ahead of its time and today the nearby CCC Camp that housed the young men and veterans who built the amphitheater remains one of the finest examples of these historic camps in the nation; and

WHEREAS, beloved by generations of Denverites who flock to the venue for its concerts, trails, Easter sunrise services, film on the rocks, athletic bootcamps, and other events, citizens and visitors alike celebrate the arts and explore the Rocky Mountain foothills from this amazing venue.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:

Section 1. That the Council enthusiastically supports National Historic Landmark Designation for Red Rocks Park and Amphitheatre and the Mount Morrison Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Camp.

Section 2. That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall attest and affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy be transmitted to the National Park Service, Denver Parks & Recreation, Friends of Red Rocks, and Arts and Venues.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL January 26, 2015

PRESIDENT